

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) will hold a public forum in Sarasota on Monday, May 4 to discuss efforts to prepare for and respond to the recent outbreak of swine flu. Buchanan encouraged members of the public with questions and concerns to attend the event he is hosting with local public safety and health officials.

“The swine flu is a serious cause of concern,” said Buchanan. “This forum will give me an opportunity to get input from local experts and my constituents on the federal response to the recent outbreak and receive important information on efforts to take precautions against the spread of the virus.”

The panel will include Sarasota County Health Department Medical Director Dr. William Heyman and Epidemiologist Scott Pritchard, Sarasota County Emergency Management Director Ed McCrane, Sarasota County School District Director of Pupil Support Services Sherri Reynolds, and Sarasota Memorial Hospital Medical Director of Infection Prevention and Control Dr. Manuel Gordillo.

The event on Monday, May 4, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, Sarasota County Administrative Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd in Sarasota.